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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

SZUMNY, JONATHON A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3632

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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<b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/602,379	GANOT, DENIS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jon A Szumny	3632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 28 June 2004 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☐ entered.

b) ☒ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.


  
 ANITA KING  
 PRIMARY EXAMINER

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle seat runner comprising first and second runner elements slidably mounted relative to each other in a longitudinal direction, the first runner element comprising a fin connected to a base that is substantially perpendicular to the fin and that extends perpendicularly to the ~~transverse~~ longitudinal direction between two side portions in connection with the second runner element, said first runner element comprising first and second sheet metal section members each having a fin wall, the fin walls of the first and second section members touching each other and being fixed together via their main faces to form the fin of the first runner element, the first section member further comprising a base wall which forms at least part of the base of the first runner element, said base wall of the first section member being connected to the fin wall of said first section member via a rounded bend which co-operates with the second section member to define a slot,

wherein the first runner element further comprises at least one welded reinforcing tab which spans at least part of said slot and constitutes a direct rigid mechanical connection between the second section member and the base wall of the first section member.

2. (Original) A runner according to claim 1, in which said reinforcing tab belongs to one of the first and second section members and is welded to the other of said first and second section members.

3. (Original) A runner according to claim 2, in which the reinforcing tab is formed by a plunged boss formed in the first section member level with said bend.

4. (Original) A runner according to claim 3, in which the fin wall of the second section member is extended in the same plane beyond the base, and said reinforcing tab has its end welded against said fin wall of the second section member.

Approved  
JS  
2/23/04

5. (Original) A runner according to claim 3, in which the reinforcing tab of the first section member passes through the fin wall of the second section member.

6. (Original) A runner according to claim 3, in which the reinforcing tab of the first section member is welded to the fin wall of the second section member without addition of any filler.

7. (Original) A runner according to claim 3, in which the second section member has a base wall substantially coplanar with the base wall of the first section member, the base wall of the second section member being connected to the fin wall of said second section member by a rounded bend which co-operates with the rounded bend of the first section member to define part of said slot, and said second section member has an additional reinforcing tab which is welded to the reinforcing tab of the first section member.

8. (Original) A runner according to claim 1, including a runner latch crimped between two side flanges parallel to the fin and belonging respectively to the first and second section members, the latch being crimped in the vicinity of said reinforcing tab.

9. (Original) A method of manufacturing a runner according to claim 4, in which method the first and second section members are made, and then they are assembled together by welding the fin walls of said first and second section members together and by welding the end of the reinforcing tab of the first section member against the fin wall of the second section member, which wall is plane.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, in which the fin wall of the second section member is welded to the fin wall of the first section member and to the reinforcing tab of said first section member by laser welding by transparency.